

IN THE CLAIMS:

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1. (original) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first validator for establishing an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
a controller for generating an assigned time at which said customer may access the attraction, said assigned time comprising a next available time as determined by an algorithm performed by said system; and
a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time.
 2. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 1 wherein the controller unilaterally determines and issues said assigned time to said customer.
 3. (original) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising;
a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;
a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the second queue and generating an assigned time in the future at which an entitled customer may access the attraction via the second queue.
 4. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 3, further comprising:
a second validator for permitting the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time.
 5. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 4 wherein the assigned time is determined and selected by the system.
 6. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 5, wherein only a single time is generated and assigned to any one customer at any one time.
 7. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 6, wherein said first validator is arranged to validate at least one type of identifying information from the group consisting of: magnetic strip, bar code, radio-frequency, iris, fingerprint, retina, voice, thermal, finger or hand

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geometry, and visual identification.

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8. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 7 wherein said second validator is arranged to validate at least one type of identifying information from the group consisting of: magnetic strip, bar code, radio-frequency, iris, fingerprint, retina, voice, thermal, finger or hand geometry, and visual identification.

9. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 8 including at least one data storage device for storing data regarding times previously assigned to customers and wherein said system is arranged to deny validation of said customer to entitlement to an assigned time if said customer has an outstanding unused assigned time associated with said at least one storage device.

10. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 9 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to each customer entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

11. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 10 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

12. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 11 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

13. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 3 including a processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said system for generating said assigned time.

14. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 3 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

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15. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 3 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to each customer entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including informational material printed thereon.

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16. (original) The system in accordance with claim 15 wherein said informational material is correlated to the location of the media distributor and the time assigned.

17. (original) The system in accordance with claim 15 wherein the informational material is generated specifically for the customer based upon an identification of that customer.

18. (original) The system in accordance with claim 15 wherein the informational material is generated to influence pedestrian traffic patterns.

19. (original) A method for managing access of one or more customers to an attraction comprising:

establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

establishing entitlement of at least one customer and generating an assigned time in the future for each entitled customer for accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue; and

establishing entitlement of at least one customer to access said attraction via said at least one second queue at said assigned time in the future.

20. (original) The method in accordance with Claim 19 wherein said assigned time is determined and selected by a controller.

21. (original) The method in accordance with Claim 19 including the step of issuing a media to said at least one customer if entitlement to an assigned time in the future is established.

22. (original) The method in accordance with Claim 19 including the step of

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assigning said times in the future in chronological order.

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23. (original) The method in accordance with Claim 19 including the step of displaying a next to be assigned time in the future for accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue.

24. (original) The method in accordance with Claim 19 wherein said assigned time is generated based upon one or more factors affecting demand for and capacity of said attraction.

25. (original) The method in accordance with Claim 19 including the step of providing a printed pass including informational material printed thereon.

26. (original) The method in accordance with Claim 25 wherein said informational material is correlated to the location where the printed pass was printed and the time assigned.

27. (original) The system in accordance with Claims 25 wherein the informational material is generated to influence pedestrian traffic patterns.

28. (original) The system in accordance with Claim 25 wherein the informational material is generated specifically for the customer based upon an identification of that customer.

29. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times which are issued on a first come, first served basis; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

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Cont'd. 30. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 29 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

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Cont'd. 31. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 29 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

32. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 29 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

33. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 29 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

34. (original) The method in accordance with claim 29 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

35. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 29 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

36. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 29 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

37. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 29 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

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38. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 29 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

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39. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;
issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times wherein said assigned times are based on a determination of a next available time; and
permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

40. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

41. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

42. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

43. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

44. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 including the step of

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generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

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45. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

46. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

47. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

48. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 39 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

49. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;
issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time in the future associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue, said media having assigned times wherein said assigned times are based on a determination of a next available time, as determined at the time of issuance; and

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permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

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50. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 wherein the assigned time must be the next available time.

51. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

52. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

53. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

54. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

55. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

56. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

57. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having

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multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

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58. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 49 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

59. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;
calculating a next available time to access said attraction through said second queue;
offering an assigned time to said customer, wherein said assigned time is determined based upon said calculation of said next available time;
issuing media to said customers, said media having the assigned time associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue; and
permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

60. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

61. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

62. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

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Contd. 63. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

64. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

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Contd. 65. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

66. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

67. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

68. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 59 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

69. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;
determining and selecting a time to be assigned, offering said assigned time to said customer;

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issuing media to said customers when said customer requests said assigned time, said media having the assigned time associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time.

70. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 69 including the step of verifying entitlement of said customer to be issued said media.

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71. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 69 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

72. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 69 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

73. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 69 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

74. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 69 including the step of generating said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

75. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 69 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

76. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 69 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which

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said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

77. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 69 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

78. (Previously added) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
a controller for determining a next available time as determined and selected by an algorithm performed by said system, and generating an assigned time based upon said determined next available time; and
a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time.

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79. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 78 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

80. (Previously added) The system of claim 78 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

81. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 78 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to each customer entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

82. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 81 wherein said admission media is utilized with said second validator to establish entitlement of the customer to access said attraction.

83. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 82 wherein said admission media comprises a printed pass.

84. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 78 wherein said first validator for establishing the entitlement comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

85. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 78 including an algorithm processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said algorithm processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said controller for generating said assigned time.

86. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 78 wherein the attraction comprises a theme park ride.

87. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 86 including sensors associated with said attraction providing data regarding a capacity of said attraction to said controller for generating an assigned time.

88. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 78 including a first queue by which customers access said attraction and a second queue by which said customers access said attraction and wherein first validator establishes the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction via the second queue and said second validator is associated with said second queue.

89. (Previously added) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
a controller configured to determine and select an assigned time based upon an algorithm performed by said system and to allow said assigned time to be offered to said customer; and
a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time, when said assigned time is taken by said customer.

90. (Previously added) The system of claim 89 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

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Cont'd 91. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 89 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to each customer entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

92. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 91 wherein said admission media is utilized with said second validator to establish entitlement of the customer to access said attraction.

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Cont'd 93. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 92 wherein said admission media comprises a printed pass.

94. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 89 wherein said first validator for establishing the entitlement comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

95. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 89 including an algorithm processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said algorithm processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said controller for generating said assigned time.

96. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 89 wherein the attraction comprises a theme park ride.

97. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 96 including sensors associated with said attraction providing data regarding a capacity of said attraction to said controller for generating an assigned time.

98. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 89 including a first queue by which customers access said attraction and a second queue by which said customers access said attraction and wherein first validator establishes the entitlement of a customer to

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access the attraction via the second queue and said second validator is associated with said second queue.

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99. (Previously added) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
a controller for determining a next available time as determined and selected by an algorithm performed by said system, generating an assigned time based upon said determined next available time, and offering said assigned time to said customer; and
a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at said assigned time, when said assigned time is taken by said customer.

100. (Previously added) The system of claim 99 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

101. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 99 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to each customer entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

102. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 101 wherein said admission media is utilized with said second validator to establish entitlement of the customer to access said attraction.

103. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 102 wherein said admission media comprises a printed pass.

104. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 99 wherein said first validator for establishing the entitlement comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

105. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 99 including an algorithm processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said algorithm processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second

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queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said controller for generating said assigned time.

106. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 99 wherein the attraction comprises a theme park ride.

107. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 106 including sensors associated with said attraction providing data regarding a capacity of said attraction to said controller for generating an assigned time.

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108. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 99 including a first queue by which customers access said attraction and a second queue by which said customers access said attraction and wherein first validator establishes the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction via the second queue and said second validator is associated with said second queue.

109. (Previously added) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time; and

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time.

110. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 109 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

111. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 109 including a media distributor for distributing a media to an entitled customer, said media including said assigned time at which the entitled customer is entitled to access the attraction in the future via said

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112. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 111 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

113. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 109 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket.

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114. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 109 wherein said system includes a controller for receiving data regarding a real time operating capacity of said attraction and providing times to be assigned by said media distributor in accordance with a mixed ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons.

115. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 114 wherein said controller includes a server.

116. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 109 including a database containing information regarding customers entitled to access said second queue.

117. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 116 wherein said database contains information regarding tickets belonging to customers.

118. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 109 including a display for displaying a wait time associated with said first queue.

119. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 109 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

120. (Previously added) The system of claim 109 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

121. (Previously added) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:

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a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time, and offered to the customer; and

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time.

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122. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 121 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

123. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 121 including a media distributor for distributing a media to an entitled customer, said media including said assigned time at which the entitled customer is entitled to access the attraction in the future via said second queue.

124. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 123 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

125. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 121 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket.

126. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 121 wherein said system includes a controller for receiving data regarding a real time operating capacity of said attraction and providing times to be assigned by said media distributor in accordance with a mixed ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons.

127. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 126 wherein said controller includes a server.

128. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 121 including a database

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containing information regarding customers entitled to access said second queue.

129. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 128 wherein said database contains information regarding tickets belonging to customers.

130. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 121 including a display for displaying a wait time associated with said first queue.

131. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 121 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

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132. (Previously added) The system of claim 121 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

133. (Previously added) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein the assigned time is determined and selected by the system and offered to the customer; and

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time.

134. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 133 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

135. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 133 including a media distributor for distributing a media to an entitled customer, said media including said assigned time at which the entitled customer is entitled to access the attraction in the future via said second queue.

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Contd. 136. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 135 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

137. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 133 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket.

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Contd. 138. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 133 wherein said system includes a controller for receiving data regarding a real time operating capacity of said attraction and providing times to be assigned by said media distributor in accordance with a mixed ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons.

139. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 138 wherein said controller includes a server.

140. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 133 including a database containing information regarding customers entitled to access said second queue.

141. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 140 wherein said database contains information regarding tickets belonging to customers.

142. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 133 including a display for displaying a wait time associated with said first queue.

143. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 133 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

144. (Previously added) The system of claim 133 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

145. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said

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attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

permitting a customer to elect to access said attraction via said at least one first queue or said at least one second queue; and

determining a next available time for accessing the attraction through said second queue, wherein a time to be assigned is derived from said determined next available time and said time to be assigned is offered to said customer.

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146. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 145 including the step of verifying said customer is entitled to be assigned said next available time if said customer elects to access said attraction via said at least one second queue.

147. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 145 wherein the subsystem determines and selects said time to be assigned based on a changing capacity of said attraction.

148. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 145 including the step of verifying said customer is entitled to access said attraction via said at least one second queue at said next available time.

149. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 146 including the step of determining if said customer has any outstanding assigned future times.

150. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 145 including the step of allocating a number of spots associated with said attraction to customers accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue.

151. (Previously added) The system of claim 145 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

152. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

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establishing at least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at least one first queue;

permitting a customer to elect to access said attraction via said at least one first queue or said at least one second queue;

determining and selecting a future time to be assigned for accessing the attraction through said second queue; and

offering said assigned time to said customer.

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153. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 152 including the step of verifying said customer is entitled to be assigned said future time if said customer elects to access said attraction via said at least one second queue.

154. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 152 wherein the subsystem determines and selects said time to be assigned based on a changing capacity of said attraction.

155. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 152 including the step of verifying said customer is entitled to access said attraction via said at least one second queue at said future time.

156. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 153 including the step of determining if said customer has any outstanding assigned future times.

157. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 152 including the step of allocating a number of spots associated with said attraction to customers accessing said attraction via said at least one second queue.

158. (Previously added) The system of claim 152 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

159. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said

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attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;
establishing a least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at said at least one first queue;
determining and selecting a next available time to access said attraction via said second queue;
offering an assigned time to said customer, wherein said assigned time is derived from said next available time;
issuing media to said customers, said media having said assigned time associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue; and
C2
Cont'd. permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at said assigned time in the future.

160. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 159 including the step of determining if said customer is entitled to be issued said media.

161. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 159 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

162. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

163. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said subsystem determines and selects said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

164. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said subsystem determines and selects said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

B1
contd.

165. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said venue.

C2
contd.

166. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

167. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 159 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

168. (Previously added) The system of claim 159 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

169. (Previously added) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first validator for establishing the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction;
a controller for determining a next available time as calculated by an algorithm performed by said system, and generating assigned times based upon said determined next available time; and

a second validator for permitting said customer to access said attraction at an assigned time selected by the customer.

170. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 169 wherein said assigned time must be the next available time.

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Contd.
171. (Previously added) The system of claim 169 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

172. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 169 including a media distributor for distributing an admission media to each customer entitled to access the attraction, said admission media including said assigned time.

C2
Contd.
173. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 172 wherein said admission media is utilized with said second validator to establish entitlement of the customer to access said attraction.

174. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 173 wherein said admission media comprises a printed pass.

175. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 169 wherein said first validator for establishing the entitlement comprises a card reader for reading a ticket belonging to a customer.

176. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 169 including an algorithm processor for determining at one or more times a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said algorithm processor determining a mix ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons and providing data about said real time operating capacity and said mix ratio to said controller for generating said assigned times.

B1
Cancel

177. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 169 wherein the attraction comprises a theme park ride.

178. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 177 including sensors associated with said attraction providing data regarding a capacity of said attraction to said controller for generating said assigned times.

C2
Cancel

179. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 169 including a first queue by which customers access said attraction and a second queue by which said customers access said attraction and wherein first validator establishes the entitlement of a customer to access the attraction via the second queue and said second validator is associated with said second queue.

180. (Previously added) A system for managing admission to an attraction comprising:
a first queue by which customers may access the attraction by waiting in line;
a second queue by which customers may access the attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of a customer to access the attraction at an assigned time in the future via the second queue, wherein assigned times are determined by the system, based on a determination of a next available time; and

a second validator for validating the entitled customer access to the attraction at the assigned time selected by the customer.

181. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 180 wherein said

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Cont'd.
assigned time must be the next available time.

182. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 180 including a media distributor for distributing a media to an entitled customer, said media including said assigned time at which the entitled customer is entitled to access the attraction in the future via said second queue.

C2
Cont'd.
183. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 182 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

184. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 180 wherein said first validator comprises a card reader for reading a ticket.

185. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 180 wherein said system includes a controller for receiving data regarding a real time operating capacity of said attraction and providing times to be assigned by said media distributor in accordance with a mixed ratio of first queue patrons and second queue patrons.

186. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 185 wherein said controller includes a server.

187. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 180 including a database containing information regarding customers entitled to access said second queue.

B1
Contd.

188. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 187 wherein said database contains information regarding tickets belonging to customers.

189. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 180 including a display for displaying a wait time associated with said first queue.

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Contd.

190. (Previously added) The system in accordance with claim 180 including a display for displaying a time which is next to be assigned.

191. (Previously added) The system of claim 180 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

192. (Previously added) A method of managing access to an attraction comprising:
establishing at least one first queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction generally in an order in which customers access said at least one first queue;

establishing a least one second queue by which one or more customers may access said attraction in a manner which avoids said at said at least one first queue;

determining a next available time to access said attraction via said second queue;

offering assigned times to said customers, wherein said assigned times are derived from said determination of a next available time;

issuing media to said customers, said media having an assigned time selected by the customer associated therewith at which time said customer may access said attraction via said at least one second queue; and

permitting a customer having a media to access said attraction via said second queue at

*B1
ctrl.*
said assigned time in the future.

193. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 192 including the step of determining if said customer is entitled to be issued said media.

*C2
ctrl.*
194. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 192 including the step of comparing a current time to said assigned time in the future associated with said media for determining if said customer is permitted to access said attraction via said second queue.

195. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein said media comprises a printed pass.

196. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein a subsystem determines and selects said assigned times based upon a demand for and capacity of said attraction.

197. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein a subsystem determines and selects said assigned times based upon a number of spots associated with said attraction allocated to customers accessing said attraction via said second queue in relation to a total number of spots associated with said attraction.

198. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and including the steps of verifying entitlement of said customer to access said venue and issuing said media at said time said customer accesses said

B1
Cont'd.
venue.

C2
Cont'd.
199. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein said attraction is one of several at a venue and including the step of issuing said media having multiple assigned times in the future associated therewith, said times including a time at which said customer may access said attraction and a time at which said customer may access at least one other attraction of said venue.

200. (Previously added) The method in accordance with claim 192 wherein said attraction is associated with a venue and wherein said media is issued prior to said customer accessing said venue.

201. (Previously added) The system of claim 192 wherein said assigned time comprises a time range during which the customer may access the attraction.

B2
C2
202. (New) A system for the real time adjustment of the flow of customers to one or more particular attractions, thereby permitting optimization of the capacity of the attraction with the demand of customers comprising:

a first queue by which said customer may access said particular attraction by waiting in line;

a second queue by which said customer may access said particular attraction in a manner which avoids the first queue;

a first validator for validating an entitlement of said customer to access the second queue;

B2
Contd.

C2
Contd.

a controller for unilaterally determining, generating and issuing an assigned range of time at which said customer may access said particular attraction via the second queue, wherein said controller comprises a processor for determining at one or more times, a real time operating capacity of said attraction, said processor providing data about said real time operating capacity to said system for generating said assigned range of time, a data storage device for storing data regarding times previously assigned to customers and wherein said system is arranged to permit or deny validation of said customer to entitlement to an assigned time based on said stored data; and

a second validator for permitting the entitled customer access to assigned attraction at the assigned range of time.

203. (New) A system according to claim 202 wherein said system is arranged to permit validation of said customer to entitlement to multiple assigned times.

204. (New) A system according to claim 203 wherein said multiple assigned times are for the same attraction.

205. (New) A system according to claim 203 wherein said multiple assigned times are each for different attractions.

206. (New) A system according to claim 203 wherein said system permits validation to multiple assigned times at some times and not at others.